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MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EXPLOITATION
OF FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

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[redacted] Washington, 13 June 1949.

Present: Mr. J. J. Bagnall, Chairman
Mr. T. A. Georgevitch, Department of Army
Mr. Theodore Nordbeck, Department of State
Lt. Col. H. C. Benavita, Department of Air
Lt. Cdr. W. A. Tilling, Department of Navy

Consultants from FDB: [redacted]

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Consultant from Army: Dr. Neilson Debevoise

Observer from OSD: Mr. Alexander Toth

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1. The Committee unanimously agreed that Soviet Book Abstracts should be reported on [redacted] and requested FDB to commence this reporting as soon as possible.

2. Turkey: 85 newspapers and 15 periodicals are reported of intelligence value from the area. About 30 of these publications are being received currently by FDB. Present field exploitation covers five to six metropolitan newspapers. The Committee decided that FDB should exploit the provincial publications for Biographic, Sociological, Economic and Political information.

3. Greece: Of 300 publications reported 22 newspapers and 32 periodicals are of intelligence value. Due to the close liaison and cooperation between Greek and US Administrative and Military forces, at this time there are few requirements from the IAC Agencies for document exploitation.

4. Iran: 30 newspapers and 25 periodicals (government publications) are reported of intelligence value. Department of State needs wider coverage of all publications in all categories of information. Army, Navy and Air receive adequate military information from our military mission but are interested in provincial coverage for Biographical information.

5. Afghanistan: Department of State desires factual information in all categories if available in publications and suggests that sample publications be procured to determine the capacity of such documents to provide such information. Army is fairly well covered for Military information. Navy has little interest in the area. Air would like all possible information on Air facilities.

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6. India-Pakistan: There are over 20,000 publications for all native languages. However, it was felt that Economic information is adequately covered in English language publications at this time. Biographical, Political, Sociological and Military information is needed for certain districts. Due to the language difficulties imposed by the many dialects, and the great scarcity of accomplished linguists, India and Pakistan were reserved as a special problem for future consideration and study.

7. Syria-Saudi Arabia-Transjordan: The IAG Agencies feel that present field coverage is adequate for their needs at this time excepting for Department of Air which needs all available information on Air facilities.

8. Lebanon-Iraq-Egypt: There is need for increased exploitation of the publications of these areas for information in all categories over and above that provided in the press summaries from the respective Embassies and Legation.

9. Israel-Palestine: 75 publications are reported of intelligence value. State, Army, Air and Navy feel that there is the greatest need for the widest possible exploitation in all categories of information.

10. Africa: Departments of State, Army and Navy feel that their intelligence needs are being met at this time. Department of Air needs all possible Air facilities information from foreign language documents.

11. The meeting adjourned at 1630.

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12. The next meeting will be held at at 1430, 20 June 1948. The agenda:

1. Old business.
2. Western Europe and Scandinavia.

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